

## Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAI-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 SCI-06 NSF-04 EB-11 COME-00

CIEP-02 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 INT-08 FEA-02

STR-08 SAM-01 CEA-02 AEC-11 DRC-01 /190 W

----- 088087

R 301609Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0795

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06714

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: UK, UR, PFOR

SUBJECT: THIRD MEETING OF JOINT ANGLO-SOVIET COMMISSION  
ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE AND ANGLO/SOVIET  
RELATIONS - MINI DETENTE?

1. ON MAY 20, THE THIRD MEETING OF THE ANGLO-SOVIET  
JOINT COMMISSION ON COOPERATION IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY  
AND TRADE MET IN LONDON. SOVIET DELEGATION, CONSISTING  
OF 15 SENIOR OFFICIALS, WAS HEADED BY V.A. KIRILLIN,  
DEPUTY

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND CHAIRMAN

OF THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. INCLUDED IN THE DELEGATION WERE THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF GOSPLAN AND THREE DEPUTY MINISTERS. ONLY PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VISIT WAS AN ARTICLE BY LABOR MP RENEE

SHORT WHICH TOOK THE COMMISSION TO TASK FOR ITS LACK OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND STRESSED BRITAIN'S INTEREST IN VASTLY INCREASING EXPORTS TO THE USSR. ONLY STATEMENT AFTER THE VISIT WAS GUARDIAN ARTICLE BY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT PETER ROGERS WHICH CITED KIRILLIN AS STATING THAT BRITISH PETROLEUM HAD STARTED TALKS WITH THE USSR TO EXPLORE FOR OIL ON THE RUSSIAN CONTINENTAL SHELF TO BE PAID FOR WITH SOVIET OIL. ACCORDING TO ROGERS, THE SIGNIFICANT PART OF KIRILLIN'S STATEMENT WAS AN ASSURANCE THAT THE SHARE OF BRITISH GOODS EXPORTED TO THE USSR WHICH HAS BEEN STAGNANT SINCE THE MASS EXPULSION OF SOVIET DIPLOMATS WOULD INCREASE.

2. FCO SOVIET DESK OFFICER, IN REPORTING ON THE VISIT TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER SAID THAT THE VISIT HAD GONE VERY WELL FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF ATMOSPHERE BUT THAT, AS USUAL, VERY LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS ACCOMPLISHED. THE SOVIET DELEGATION WAS VERY FRIENDLY, RATHER APPARENTLY UNDER ORDERS AND THERE WAS NO ACRIMONIOUS DISCUSSION. AFTER THREE-DAY MEETING THE SOVIETS TOURED MIDLANDS INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATIONS.

3. FCO SPOKESMAN SPECULATED THAT TONE OF THE VISIT SEEMED TO BE PART OF A NEW SOVIET DETENTE OFFENSIVE VIS-A-VIS THE NEW LABOR GOVERNMENT. HE CITED OTHER INCIDENTS WHICH SEEM TO SUPPORT THIS THEORY. BRITISH

AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW, GARVEY, AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF WAITING, WAS SUDDENLY CALLED TO PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS ABOUT TEN DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION. WITHIN 48 HOURS HE HAD CONTACTS WITH KOSYGIN AND GROMYKO SEPARATELY AND FOR THE FIRST TIME. SINCE THEN, SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON, LUNKOV, HAS BEEN DASHING AROUND LONDON AS IF TOLD TO GET IN STEP WITH NEW CONFIDENTIAL

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POLICY. AMONG OTHERS HE HAS SEEN THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND THE SECRETARIES OF STATE FOR TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT. FCO OFFICIALS SPECULATED THAT SOVIET WOOING OF THE LABOR GOVERNMENT MAY BE INTENDED TO SOFTEN BRITAIN'S RELATIVELY TOUGH POSITION ON CSCE AND FORCE REDUCTIONS. THEY INDICATED THAT FOR THIS POLICY TO SUCCEED AT ALL, SERIOUS TRADE ADVANTAGES FOR BRITAIN RATHER THAN SWEET-TALK WOULD BE A PREREQUISITE.

ANNENBERG

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